

09/942,884

Attorney Docket No. 14017-1

REMARKS**I. Response to Election Requirement.**

In response to the Election Requirement, Applicants traverse the Election Requirement on the grounds that a combined search and examination of all species would not impose a serious burden on the Examiner. All the claimed species are similarly limited to a channel having a porous dielectric material and a fluid, a fluid inlet at pressure P_1 , and a fluid outlet at pressure P_2 wherein $P_2 < P_1$, and applying an electric potential to spaced electrodes in the channel, where the electric potential generates an electroosmotically-driven flow component through the channel, in varying language.

A combined search of all the species, where the claims directed to each species are similarly limited, as described above, does not impose any extra burden on the Examiner. Accordingly, withdrawal of the election requirement is respectfully requested.

II. Election of Species.

Notwithstanding this objection to the election requirement, Applicants provisionally elect Species A (Figure 1), without prejudice to pursue the non-elected claims at a future date in this or in another application. Claims 1, 4-13, and 39 read on this species.

Additionally, Applicants request rejoinder of non-elected claims as appropriate should allowable subject matter be found among the elected claims.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that the application is in condition for allowance. If there are any issues that can be resolved by telephone with the Applicants' representative, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned directly.

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No fee is believed due with this communication. However, in the event that any fee is due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fee associated with this communication, including any fee for extension of time to respond, to Deposit Account No. 19-2090.

Respectfully Submitted,
SHELDON & MAK PC

Date: May 24, 2004By: 

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